Countertop Epoxy Casting Resin Instructions

Tools and Supplies needed from start to finish:

1. Clean Paint/Mixing Sticks - Dirty sticks can cause contamination of epoxy
2. 5 Quart/Graduated Mixing Buckets - Any buckets showing measurements will work fine, you will need multiple
3. Standard Mixing Cups
4. Nylon Paint Brush - To paint basecoat onto and vertical edges (use brushes that don’t lose bristles)
5. Propane Torch - The torch should be used to pop air bubbles
6. Masking Supplies - Drop cloths or plastic sheeting, masking tape, this is to avoid spills and leaking product onto unwanted surfaces
7. Gloves
8. DAP Spackling - To cover and grout lines or cracks, you may also need sandpaper to sand the areas to match the level of the current countertops

STEP 1. TEMPERATURE, PREPARATION AND CLEANING:
Before you start, make sure that both the epoxy, substrate and ambient air temperature are between 70-75 degrees Fahrenheit (21-24 Celsius). Clean countertop surface with 409 or a comparable cleaner. Make sure the entire work area is clean and free of dust and clutter, which may contaminate the finished product. Use DAP spackling to fill small holes, cracks and seams. Be sure not to leave any excess spackling on surfaces to be coated with the epoxy. Use a sanding block to smooth repairs.

SKIM COAT: If applying the epoxy over a porous surface such as concrete or wood, a skim coat is necessary before flood coating with the epoxy to prevent air bubbles in the finished product. If you’re careful you can do this now; otherwise wait until after masking. Mix a small amount of epoxy according to the instructions in STEP 3. and use a squeegee to spread a very thin coat over the entire surface. This will seal the surface to prevent air bubbles during the flood coat stage.

STEP 2. MASKING & PAINT EDGES:
After cleaning, let the countertop dry, then begin masking. Roll plastic onto the floor and under your work area. Place the masking material tightly up to the toe kicks under the cabinets and use masking tape to hold it in place. Then run plastic along the front edge of your cabinets at the very top, just under the countertop, allowing it to drape onto the floor which you just masked. This is to allow the epoxy to drip off the countertop without touching your cabinets or floors.

STEP 3. MIXING EPOXY:
NOTE: In this step, it is extremely important to measure epoxy accurately and mix thoroughly, with clean buckets and clean mixing sticks. Measure 2 parts A Resin to 1 part B Hardener by volume. Hardener (Part B) should always be poured into the mixing bucket first, followed by the Resin (Part A) in an exact two-to-one ratio. Because the Countertop Epoxy Casting Resin is meant to be poured very thick, it is very important to try reduce the amount of air bubbles that are created during the mixing process. Stir extremely slowly for 5 minutes. Be sure to scrape the sides and bottom of the bucket often to pull any unmixed Part A or Part B off of the container walls.

STEP 4. SWITCHING BUCKETS:
Take the already mixed Casting Resin and pour all of the contents into a second clean container. Stir just as slowly for an additional 4 minutes using a second clean mixing stick.

As soon as you are finished mixing, immediately pour all of your product out into the area you are trying to cast or build up. Only pour 2 inches thick at a time. WARNING: If left in the bucket, it will harden much more quickly than when poured out on the surface, reducing your working time.

NOTE: All of our products have been specially engineered for compatibility. Use of other resins, colorants, pigments or powders may affect the UV resistance, curing, bond strength or hardness of the Casting Resin, and may result in an uneven finish, “fish-eyes” or yellowing. Do not try to cut corners by mixing a cheaper epoxy or using other colorants and pigments with our Casting Resin. If you choose to ignore this advice, do so at your own risk! For more information, read the specifications on our Countertop Epoxy products.

STEP 5. SPRAY ALCOHOL:
Countertop Epoxy Casting Resin has a longer cure time than our other epoxies, so if you do end up seeing some air bubbles you can spray the surface with 91% isopropyl alcohol a few hours later.

STEP 6. CLEANUP:
Approximately 2-3 hours later, go around all edges with a paint stick or putty knife in order to remove drips from the bottom edge. Once the epoxy is completely cured, if you have any remaining drips, you can remove them with sandpaper. Once the epoxy has hardened to the point that drips are no longer forming (about 2-4 hours), you can start to remove the masking and clean up the area. DO NOT TAKE INTERNALLY. KEEP OUT OF THE REACH OF CHILDREN.